



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
Oct. 26, 2009

For More Information, Contact:
Loreeta Canton
Stacy Eberl
Office of Public Information
North Dakota Department of Health
Phone: 701.328.2372
E-mail: lcanton@nd.gov
sleberl@nd.gov

MEDIA ADVISORY

**North Dakota Department of Health schedules media conference call
to discuss the state's first H1N1 influenza-related death**

BISMARCK, N.D. – To answer media questions about the state's first H1N1 influenza-related death, the North Dakota Department of Health will hold a telephone media availability Monday, Oct. 26, 2009, at 3 p.m. The following department officials will participate in the 3 p.m. conference call:

- Dr. Terry Dwelle, state health officer
- Kirby Kruger, state epidemiologist
- Molly Sander, Immunization Program manager

To connect to the conference call, the media is asked to dial 866.637.9769. If you have trouble connecting, call 701.328.2378.

Members of the media who wish to attend in person can meet at 3 p.m. in Red River Room at the State Capitol Building, Bismarck N.D.

For more information about the conference call, contact Loreeta Canton or Stacy Eberl, public information officers, at 701.328.2372.

-- more --

600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 301, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0200
Phone: 701.328.2372 Fax: 701.328.4727 E-mail: health@nd.gov

Visit the health department home page at www.ndhealth.gov.

Policy for Release of Information Concerning Novel H1N1 Influenza Cases

The North Dakota Department of Health is charged with protecting the public's health, while at the same time protecting the identity and the privacy of people who are infected with diseases. The following list identifies the information the Department of Health will release to the media and/or public concerning novel H1N1 influenza (swine flu) cases reported in North Dakota.

Confirmed H1N1 Influenza Cases

- Number of cases per county
- Number of males and females statewide
- Number hospitalized statewide
- Number of cases by age group statewide
 - Younger than 10
 - Ages 10 to 19
 - Ages 20 to 29
 - Ages 30 to 39
 - Ages 40 to 49
 - Ages 50 to 59
 - Age 60 and older

H1N1 Influenza Deaths

- Region of the state in which the person resided
- Age group of the person
- The person's gender
- If the person had any underlying medical conditions

Certain outbreak situations may require the department to release more specific information about the location of cases in order to ensure implementation of appropriate public health interventions. This decision will be made on a case-by-case basis.

If you have any questions, please contact Loreeta Canton or Stacy Eberl, North Dakota Department of Health Office of Public Information, at 701.328.2372.

-- 30 --

Please note: To access archived news releases and other information, visit the North Dakota Department of Health Press Room at www.nddohpressroom.gov.